

News from the Blue Group

Oct.
2016

News flash:

We welcomed two children in our group
Isabella & Philipp



Very soon we will also have *Viaan and Huy* joining us in the Blue Group.

Upcoming Events:

- ❖ Halloween dress up party all Big Kids: 31 October
- ❖ Jolly Phonics start: 7 Nov.
- ❖ Christmas celebrations: Santa's visit is in the week of 12 -16 Dec.

We celebrated our first birthday of the year with Katka turning 4!!

Dear parents,
Welcome to the first newsletter of this 'school year'. We started in August by decorating our class room together with the children. The theme is 'A forest' and we started by creating this scene for the front door. The children helped cutting leaves and twisting vines, then decided where they wanted their works to go. Letting children be part of decorating the class room gives them a sense of ownership and pride on seeing their creations around the class. In the coming months we will continue decorating the class as we are introducing some forest animals and plants, depending on the interest of the children.



Swimming fun with tubes, funnels & watering cans...



Homework

We started our theme with "All about Me" and we talked about our families. We gave a 'homework assignment' where you and your child created a collage of your family and they look positively awesome! The children were eager to talk about their collage in our Show & Tell time; So eager that they started without us teachers!

All collages are hanging in the book corner in our class, and often the children sit there and start to talk to each other about the pictures they see and what they were doing then. The children learn to listen to each other, explain situations or actions and to tell details clearly. Besides language skills building, it also gives a sense of pride, showing friends about themselves, telling their story. You are most welcome to come and have a look!



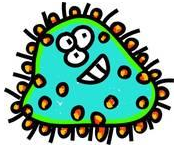
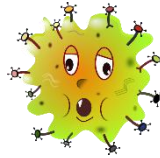
Activities & Events

Germs

We talked about hygiene and how important it is to be clean, especially washing our hands regularly. To explain what germs are, we used a little oil and glitter which we asked the children to put on their hands and rub together. They all liked the sensation of this mixture. We asked the children to play with some toys and see how the 'germs' spread out. They were surprised and then happily spread more 'germs' on various toys as well as each other..

The children learned that wiping with a dry cloth doesn't clean off the 'germs', but washing with soap and water did. They all helped washing the toys afterwards and enjoyed that activity too: seeing the 'germs' disappear and have clean toys and hands! This was a sensory activity as well as a science activity: the children enjoyed the soft sensation of the (baby) oil mixed with glitters, then washing it all off with soapy water.

Now they often remind themselves and us that we need to wash our hands "otherwise the germs will make us sick".



Mid-Autumn Celebration with Lanterns!

On Thursday 15 September we held a lantern parade together with all the Big Kids, at Thao Dien. Each child had made their own lantern. One friend even finished a lantern for her friend because she was sick.

The children were dressed up in their Ao Dai's (traditional Vietnamese dress) and looked great! When all children had gathered together, they went out on a parade around the compound to show off their beautiful lanterns. After the parade everybody went inside to have snack and tried out a couple of pieces of 'moon cake' that is traditionally eaten at this time. When snack was done all children got together to act out the story of the 'Archer and the Lady on the Moon' through yoga moves. Everybody enjoyed this activity.

SmartKids' 10 year Birthday

SmartKids turned 10 Years on 1 October! To celebrate this milestone, the children Helped to create an artwork on canvas which we gave to Ms. Yoko on the day of the party.



Thank you for your support and hope you enjoyed reading this letter! Next news letter will be in March.

Ms. Monique & Ms. Azi

